Emanuel United Church of Christ
Consistory Minutes
November 10, 2020

Present: Brad Kurtz, Helen Tritt, Andrea Sammons, Nick Kindel, Janel Baughman, Glenn Lynn, Val Cordray, Harriet Neiser, Pastor Gaye Santoro, Betsy Rawlins, Alexandra Sammons
Absent: Ernie Lyons

The consistory meeting was called to order at 7:01 by President Brad Kurtz through Zoom. Pastor Gaye Santoro opened the meeting with prayer.

Correspondence: Jean Grigalunas wanted to thank people for all the cards while she was in the hospital.

Secretary's Report: Minutes were approved via e-mail by consistory after the October meeting. The spelling of Pastor Schluep's was corrected in the October minutes.

Treasurer's Report: The offering is looking better and the checking account is better Harriet made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and Val seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Pastor's Report: October 13-Nov 10, 2020

- Events: 4 Trunk or Treat, All Saints, Veterans Day
- Special Music
- Office Visits: 4
- Home Visits: 3
- Phone Calls: 42
- Vacation: 4 Took time off for vacation
- Church Meetings: 4 consistory, elders, planning, pj streaming
- EOA Meetings: 1
- Bible Study Classes: 3
- Hospital Calls, Funeral: 0
- White fragility Book Study: 4

Old Business:

- New Worship Committee Formation: This committee has been disbanded.
- New Church Website update: Nothing new reported yet. We are continuing with our current web domain supplier month by month.
- New Church Video Program Update: Pastor Gaye met with P.J. today to learn more about our streaming system.
- Church to Open on November 29th: Elders recommended to consistory to not open on Nov. 29th.

New Business

- What is environmental and social definition for a safe opening.
    - There was much discussion about the topic of opening Emanuel for in-person worship. There are strong opinions on both sides of this issue. Some feel that we should not open until a vaccine is available. Others are concerned about the health of our church and its future if we continue to remain closed for in-person worship. We need to pay attention to the covid levels of Wayne, Summit and Medina county as we consider the safe opening.
    - There was discussion on the list of safety Protocols that would to be adhered to for a safe opening. A contactless thermometer has been purchased for use before each Sunday service. Masks will be worn at all times and there will be no Congregational singing. Protocol list is shared in weekly email.

    - After much discussion, Janel made a motion to actively move forward with an in- person opening when we are ready with the video streaming up and running and safety protocols in place. Val seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- Alternative Congregational Fellowship Development: Looking for new ways to stay connected during this time of physical separation. We have purchased 30 advent wreaths with candles to light at home this advent season. Let the church know if you would like a wreath. They will be delivered to your home.
- 2021 Budget meeting: There will be a budget committee meeting via zoom before the December Consistory meeting. The budget committee consist of the treasurer, president of consistory and 2 other consistory members. Janel and Harriet volunteered to be on budget committee.
- The annual meeting will be January 31, 2021.
- Church Employee- Covid hours vs. actual hours: How long will we continue paying full salary for custodial while the church is by only zoom. Helen made a motion to continue Bev's full hours and Nick/Val seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- Consistory Term replacements: Ernie and Harriet have completed their 2 terms on consistory. We will be looking for replacements. Glenn and Nick will continue with their second term.

Standing Committees:

Mission: participating in Doylestown's Share-a-Christmas and will be taking the money out of the mission budget. We will not be doing gifts for the nursing homes this year.

Christian Education:

- Sunday School on zoom is going well.
- The movie Coco was canceled due to weather.
- Trunk or Treat was a huge success. We had 14 trunks participating and about 60 trick-or-treaters.
- The Sunday school has bought advent wreath for families to have at home this advent season.
- The children's outdoor program has been canceled. We will try to do the song "The Friendly Beasts" on Zoom.

Property:

- Painted most of the narthex
- Lights are all in line now.
- Bev and Forrest replaced all the batteries in the smoke detectors.
- Have the drywall for the wall.
- Ordered doors for the new built in closet.
- Had the 5 year audit on the water system. Got an A plus on everything except the well. The well did not pass because it is in the basement and not outside. It will probably be condemned.

Elders: See October minutes

Safety and Security: Compiling a protocol list for our reopening.

Pastoral relations, Music, Technology: did not meet

A motion to adjourn was made by Janel. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Helen Tritt, Secretary